

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the final Office Action dated December 2, 2004. Claims 1 to 14 are in the application, of which Claims 1, 12 and 13 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Turning first to a formal matter, the Examiner is respectfully requested to acknowledge receipt of the certified copy of the priority document filed on May 10, 2001.

Claims 1 to 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,096,500 (Tayloe). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

The present invention relates to a radio communication system. The system includes a plurality of terminals and a base station. The base station includes a connection unit which initiates an attempt to connect to the plurality of terminals. One feature of the present invention lies in the display of information concerning the connection status of the terminals. For terminals in which a connection initiated by the connection unit is not made, information about the unconnected terminals is displayed. For terminals in which connection initiated by the connection unit is made, information about the connected terminals is displayed together with a reception status notified from a notification unit of the connected terminals.

In this way, a user of the system can quickly determine which terminals are unconnected, even in the absence of a connection. And with respect to connected terminals, a user can determine the reception status.

With specific reference to the claims, independent Claim 1 recites a radio communication system having a plurality of terminals and a base station. Each of the terminals comprises a reception status detector for detecting a reception status of a signal received from the base station and a notification unit for notifying the base station of the reception status detected by the reception status detector. The base station comprises a connection unit and a display control unit. The connection unit initiates an attempt to connect to the plurality of terminals from the base station. The display control unit displays on a display unit, for terminals in which a connection initiated by the connection unit is not made, information about the unconnected terminals. In addition, the display control unit displays on a display unit, for terminals in which a connection initiated by the connection unit is made, information about the connected terminals and the reception status notified from the notification unit of the connected terminals.

Independent Claim 12 is a method claim that corresponds generally to the system of independent Claim 1.

The applied art is not seen to disclose or suggest the features of independent Claims 1 and 12, and in particular, is not seen to disclose or suggest at least the features of initiating an attempt to connect to the plurality of terminals from the base station and displaying information about terminals for which a connection to the base station is not made.

Tayloe relates to a cellular radiotelephone diagnostic system. Tayloe is seen to teach a system and method of evaluating the radio coverage of a geographic area serviced by a digital cellular radio-telephone communication service. The system includes a plurality of base stations and a plurality of mobile units. During operation, the position

of at least one of the mobile units of the operating within the geographic area is located when a call is received by a base station. The base station monitors the signal quality of the call and collects information relevant to the actual performance of the communication system. (see Abstract)

As such, Tayloe is seen to teach monitoring signal quality of calls received from a mobile unit. On the other hand, the present invention teaches communication that is initiated by the connection unit of the base station.

Furthermore, Tayloe is seen to provide information concerning the electromagnetic coverage of a base station based on position and signal quality of the mobile unit (column 5, lines 40-49). Thus, Tayloe is seen to teach providing information about mobile units from which a connection is received. The present invention, on the other hand, teaches displaying information about terminals in which connection is not made. Tayloe is not seen to teach this feature as Tayloe does not initiate connection from a base station, but rather receives calls to a base station. As such, a user of the Tayloe system would not have a display of information about unconnected terminals.

In this regard, the Office Action contends that Tayloe's disclosure of displaying information about mobile units that have degraded services provided by the base station equates to the present invention's display of information about terminals in which connection is not made. However, as Tayloe's information concerning degraded services is obtained based on a call the base station received, this feature cannot be seen to teach displaying information about terminals in which connection is not made.

Accordingly, based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, independent Claims 1 and 12 are believed to be allowable over the applied references.

Independent Claim 13 recites a communication apparatus comprising a memory, a radio unit, and a display controller. The memory stores information about a plurality of terminals. The radio unit initiates an attempt to connect from the communication apparatus to the plurality of terminals based on the information stored in the memory. The display controller displays on a display unit information about terminals for which a connection to the radio unit is not made. In addition, the display controller displays on a display unit information about terminals for which a connection to the radio unit is made and displays a reception status notified from terminals for which a connection to the radio unit is made.

The applied art is not seen to teach or suggest the features of independent Claim 13, and in particular, is not seen to teach or suggest at least the features of a radio unit for initiating an attempt to connect from the communication apparatus to the plurality of terminals based on the information stored in the memory, and a display controller for displaying an information about terminals for which a connection to the radio unit is not made.

As discussed above with reference to independent Claims 1 and 12, Tayloe is not seen to disclose or suggest the features of initiating an attempt to connect to the plurality of terminals from the base station and displaying information about terminals for which a connection to the base station is not made. Similarly, Tayloe is not seen to disclose or suggest the feature of a radio unit for initiating an attempt to connect from the communication apparatus to the plurality of terminals based on the information stored in the memory, and a display controller for displaying an information about terminals for which a connection to the radio unit is not made.

Accordingly, based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, the independent Claim 13 is believed to be allowable over the applied references.

The other claims in the application are each dependent from the independent claims and are believed to be allowable over the applied references for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

No other matters being raised, it is believed that the entire application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matthew J. Evans', written over a horizontal line.

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